

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 03998 020658Z

17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01

SAJ-01 SAB-01 IO-13 SSM-05 SCCT-01 ACDA-10 DHA-02

OC-06 CCO-00 /107 W

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R 020535Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8686

INFO AMEMB CAIRO

AMEMB DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMB JIDDA

AMEMB TEL AVIV

UNCLAS AMMAN 3998

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE, JO

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN PRESS PRAISES SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN ACCORD,
CENSURES EGYPTIAN ATTACKS

1. LOCAL PRESS HAS MAINTAINED DRUMBEAT OF PRAISE FOR
JULY 29 SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN AGREEMENT SIGNED IN DAMASCUS.
EDITORIALS AUG 1 EXPRESS CONSTERNATION AT EGYPTIAN
CRITICISM OF ACCORDS.

2. JORDANIAN EDITORIAL APPROVAL HAS STRESSED THREE POINTS:
(A) ACCORD PROVIDES CLEAR SOLUTIONS SUPPORTED BY FORCE REQUIRED
FOR IMPLEMENTATION; (B) RESOTRATION OF SOUND SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN
RELATIONS OPENS DOOR FOR RENEWED EFFORTS AGAINST ZIONIST ENEMY,
AND (C) ACCORD COMBINES "PRESERVATION OF UNITY OF LEBANESE
PEOPLE" WITH FREEDOMWHICH ALLOWS PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE TO
STRIKE AT ISRAEL.

3. PRESS AUG 1 DEPLORES INTERNECINE ARAB PROPAGANDA
BATTLES, "INTO WHICH FURNACE JORDAN WILL NEVER BE DRAGGED."
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AR-RAYY: "IT IS QUITE STRANGE THAT EGYPT HAS CONDEMNED THE

ACCORD IN AN OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE. WHILE WE CAN UNDERSTAND THAT THE SINAI AGREEMENT IS A SENSITIVE POINT TO EGYPTIAN POLITICIANS, WE DO NOT SEE THAT DEFENSE OF THE SINAI ACCORD STEMS FROM CONDEMNING THE DAMASCUS AGREEMENT. ON THE CONTRARY, CONTINUED FIGHTING IN LEBANON WOULD NULLIFY THE RESULTS OF THE SINAI AGREEMENT." ASH-SHA'AB: "AN EGYPTIAN SPOKESMAN DECLARED THAT THE DAMASCUS ACCORD IS A CONSPIRACY... IMPLEMENTED THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF SYRIA, JORDAN ISRAEL, THE USSR, AND LEBANON'S REIGHTISTS, WITHOUT GIVING ANY JUSTIFCIATION FOR THESE ACCUSATIONS. JORDAN, HOWEVER, HAS ALWAYS KEPT SILENT ON THE SUBJECT OF LEBANON AND HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED EFFORTS TO END THE TRAGEDY. JORDAN DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN NEGOTIATIONS, WHILE THE PLO DID, WHY THEN DOES CAIRO SLANDER AN AGREEMENT APPROVED BY THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PLO? THIS IMPLIES THAT CAIRO IS MANEUVERING IN A LAST ATTEMPT TO COVER UP THE SINAI ACCORD BY ACCUSING DAMASCUS AND AMMAN, BOTH OF WHICH HAVE REJECTED ALL PRESSURES TEMPTING THEM TO SIGN AGREEMENTS SIMILAR TO SINAI."

4. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST MENTION OF SINAI II AGREEMENT IN JORDANIAN PRESS IN SEVERAL MONTHS. TOO EARLY TO TELL IF THIS IS MERELY TEMPORARY RESURRECTION (MOST LIKELY) OR FIRST SALVO OF RENEWED ANTI-SINAI CAMPAIGN.
PICKERING

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